## PETITIONS.

OF THE

Knights, Gentlemen, Freeholders, and others of the Inhabitants of the County of HERTFORD.

The one
To the Right Honourable House of PRERS.

The other,

To the Knights, Citizens, and Burgefles, of the Honourable House of Commons affembled in PARLIAMENT.

Delivered

By at least 4000 Knights, Gentlemen, Freeholders, and other Inhabitants of the County of HERTFORD January 25.

## LONDON,

Printed by a perfect Copie, by R. O. & G.Dexter, and are to be fold by John Sweeting at the figure of the Angell in Popes-head-alley, 1642.

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## TO THE RIGHT HONOUR ABLE THE HOUSE OF

PEERS, now assembled in PARLIAMENT.

The humble Petition of Knights, Gentlemen, Free holders, and other Inhabitants of the County of HERTFORD.

Sheweth,

Hat the Petitioners having hitherto with much patience waited for, and with great confidence expeded the happy progresse of this Parliament, and therein the removall of all those grievances, under which they have a long time groaned, and the perfect Reformation of Church and Common-wealth, They are now constrained to represent unto this Honourable House, the manifold feares, troubles, and distractions wherewith they are incompassed, ariseing from that hellish and bloody rebellion in Ireland, acted by the Papifts against our Brethren, by Nation and Religion, apparently threatning the losse of that Kingdome, the extirpation of the Protestant Religion there, and extreame prejudice, if not atter ruin; of this Kingdome; From the want of timely and powerful supplies to suppresse those Rebells; the not granting ample Commissions to those who have bin ready to take up Armes a-

gainst them; the not passing of the Acts for impressing Souldiers to that service, and the delayes in acceptance of the worthy offer of the Scotch Nation, to fend 10000 Soldiers thither, From the continuance of the Prelacy, and multitudes of erronious and scandilous Ministers in this Kingdome; the Infolencie of the Papilts, their being armed; the want of execution of Juffice against Priests and Jesuits already condemned, and other notorious Delinquents; the many desperate plots and defignes attempted against the Parliament and Kingdome, by the Popish and Prelaticall party; the great and unparalleld breaches lately made upon the Priviledges of Parliament, endangering the overthrow of the very being thereof, and the destruction of divers of its Members, worthy Patriots of their Country, the not disclosing and punishing of those persons who counfelled the same; The unpreparednesse of the Sea Forts and other strengths of this Kingdome by Sea and Land, against any Invasion: and the continuance of divers of them in unsafe hands, wherein the Parliament; (and in them the whole Kingdome) cannot confide; the delay of putting the Kingdome into a posture of Warre, for their better defence; the milunderstanding between his Majesty and the Parliament, and the want of Compliance by this Honourable House with the House of Commons, in entertaining those many good Motions, and passing those necessary Bills presented to you from that House for the Common good. All which springs and causes of your Petitioners seares and distractions, having occasioned the totall decay oftrade, and great fcarcity of money, and thereby the impoverishing and unsettlement of the whole Kingdome, and tending fo exceedingly to the indangering of his Majesties honour and dignity, and the peace and fafety of this Kingdome. dome, The Petitioners do verily believe, that as the fame received their first being from the Popish and relaticall party so have they hitherto blu continued, and will(it is greatly to be feared) dayly increase by the Voting of the Popish Lords and Bishops in this Honourable House (whose interests in respect of Religion, their own standings, or otherwise are at this time so contrary to the happinesse of this Kingdome) and by the continuance of wicked Councellors and evill Ministers of State about his Majesty.

The Petitioners therefore humbly pray, that all the forefaid Caufes and springs of their fears and proubles may be speedily removed: And (for the effecting thereof) that the evill conncellors and others hindring the publique good may bee taken from about his Majestie, and the voting of the Popish Lords and Bishops removed out of this Banourable House: And that the Petitioners (who shall be ever ready to hazard their lives and Estates for the defence of the King and Parliament, the Priviledges of the same, and in special those noble Lords and Gentlemen in both Houses whose endeavours are for the publike good) may have liberty to protest against all those as enemies to this Kingdome who refuse to some with those Honourable Lords and the House of Commons for the putting of the Kingdome into a way of safety under the Command of such persons as the Parliament shall appoint.

And your Petitioners shall dayly pray,&c.

## TO THE HONOURABLE

KN 19HTS, CITIZENS and BURGESSES, of the House of COMMONS affembled in PARLIAMENT.

The humble Petition of Knights, Gentlemen, Freeholders, and others, inhabitants of the County of HERTFORD.

Sheweth,



Hat this Church and Kingdome being by the Prelates, those multitudes of corrupt and fcandalous Ministers (their Creatures) and the Popish party, concurring with them on the one hand; and by wic-

ked Counsellors, evill Ministers of State, and great fwarmes of Projectors and others ill affected to the peace of this Realme, on the other hand, brought to a fad and almost desperate condition, and thereby the folendor of his Majesties Crowne and Dignity dangerously weakned and eclypsed. It pleased his Majestie, having respect to the Petitions of his Nobles & people in that behalfe, to call this present Parliament, the only able meanes (under God) to reforme the many preftures and grievances of the Church and Kingdome, and

to remove the causes thereof.

In which Parliament, to the honour of his Majestie, and comfort of his good Subjects, exemplarie Justice hath been executed, Arbytrary Courts, Ship-money, Monopolies, and other illegall Impositions removed, the shedding of much blood prevented, by the late union between the two Kingdoms of England and Scotland, and surther hopes given us of perfecting what remaines by the happy continuance and much desired

progresse of this Parliament.

And although that malignant partie of Prelates and Papilts, and their adherents (whose present standings, and the happy successe of this Parliament, as the Petitioners humblyconceive, are inconfiftant) have by their manifold wicked practices and defignes endeavoured to binder all thonow reformation in Church and Common-wealth, to fiffe in the birth and progreffe all those good bills, and other preparations made by this Honourable assemblie for that purpose, and especially, for the reliefe of the Kingdome of Ireland, (the ruine whereof will endanger this Kingdome also) To frop the influence of his Majesties Royall favour in giving life thereto, to divide betweene his Majestie and this Honourable affembly, and to render you not onely contemptible, but also burthensome to the people; yet the Petioners, and as they verily believe, all well affected to his Majestie, and the peace and profperitie of this Kingdome, have, and still shall continue an high & honourable effeem of this worthy affembly, & of your great and unwearied endeavours, and doe with the utmost expressions of their thankfulnesse acknowledge the same, and the progresse and perfecting thereof, to be of great confequence and deepe neceffitie to the peace and welfare of this Church and King dome, and fuch as without which, not only a refluxe of the former calamities, but even utter ruine and defolation, like that, being too long continued in fad & much

lamented Ireland will apparenty enfue.

From the sense whereof, and of the great and unheard of breaches lately made upon the priviledges of Parliament, even to the endangering of the being thereof, wherein your Petitioners and their posterity are much concerned. The Peritioners take upon them the humble boldnesse to declare their readinesse and great engagements according to their Protestation, to stand to, and desend, to the utmost perill of their lives and estates, the Kings Majestie and high Court of Parliament, with all the power and priviledges of the same, and all your Honourable proceedings for the common good, against all Popish and other malignant opposers, who endeavour, either by evill Counsell, secret plots, or open force to hart or projudice the same, or to make divisions betweene his Majesty and the Parliament.

and the faid Petitioners bumbly pray, that the Papists may be fully diffarmed, the Lawes against them executed, the Kingdome, and especially this County, according to their late Petition in that behalfe, put into a possure of warre for their better desence; the forts and strength of this Kingdome put into safe bands, which the Parliament may conside and trust in, the priviledges of Parliament repaired and throughly vindicated, and that this Honourable (assembly as bath been lately desired of your to the Chizens of London) will be a meanes unto his Majestie and House of Peers, that life may be speedily given to your good endeavours by their concurrence with you intaking away of the votes of Popish Lords and Bishops out of the House of Peers, the speedy and strong reliefe of Itleland, the surface punishment of Delinquents, the removeal of the pressures and grievances in Church and Common-wealth, and resorming of what is therein amisse

For all which your Petitioners shall daily pray,&c.

FINIS.